

Message Text

SECRET

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21

ORIGIN PM-03

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 INR-05 NEA-06 L-01 H-02 PRS-01

SP-02 NSC-05 NSCE-00 CIAE-00 ACDA-10 OES-02 EA-06

/058 R

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----- 100686

R 252238Z MAR 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

OSD/ISA

CSAF

S E C R E T STATE 067593

LIMDIS/NOFORN

E.O. 11652: XGDS-2

TAGS: MILI, TGEN, IN

SUBJECT: INDIAN NUCLEAR TEST

REFS: (A) NEW DELHI 3171

(B) STATE 049622

1. REVIEW OF MOST RECENT REPORTING IN DEPARTMENT AND
IN DOD IN LIGHT REFTEL A INCLINES US TOWARD VIEW THAT WHILE
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INDIA HAS CAPABILITY TO CONDUCT NUCLEAR TEST IN NEAR

FUTURE, WE LACK CONVINCING EVIDENCE IT INTENDS TO DO SO. EARLIER REPORTS WHICH SUGGESTED NUCLEAR TEST MIGHT BE CONDUCTED TO SPUR DOMESTIC POLITICAL ENTHUSIASM ON EVE OF GENERAL ELECTIONS--THEN ANTICIPATED DURING THE SPRING--PROVIDED BASIS FOR REFTEL B.

2. RECENT REPORTS AND APPARENT GOI DECISION NOT TO HOLD ELECTIONS THIS SPRING, SUGGEST REDUCED POLITICAL MOTIVATION FOR EARLY TEST. MOREOVER, WE DO NOT HAVE SUBSTANTIAL EVIDENCE OF PREPARATIONS FOR A TEST AT THIS TIME. NEVERTHELESS IT WILL CONTINUE TO BE DIFFICULT TO ASCERTAIN ACCURATELY GOI INTENTIONS IN NUCLEAR TEST FIELD, AS DISTINGUISHED FROM ITS CAPABILITIES.

3. EMBASSIES BANGKOK AND TEHRAN MAY INFORM HOST GOVERNMENTS AS APPROPRIATE, NOTING THAT WE HOPE UNDERSTANDINGS REACHED AT THIS TIME WILL APPLY TO TEST AT FUTURE DATE. KISSINGER

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NNN

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Draft Date: 25 MAR 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Event:
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EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

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To: NEW DELHI
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